



JC07 Rec'd PCT/PTO 11 FEB 2002

10/019246 PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Appln. Of: OKATANI
Serial No. 10/019,246
Filed: December 18, 2001
For: THREE-DIMENSIONAL MODEL FORMING APPARATUS
Docket: SHIG CP04MA00TA

Assistant Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRIOR ART DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application, Applicant hereby attaches U.S. Patent Office form PTO-1449, including copies of the prior art references listed therein. These references were cited in the International Search Report dated June 12, 2001 of the corresponding PCT patent application. Enclosed, also, is a copy of the International Search Report. The claims in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguished over these references.

This Prior Art Disclosure Statement is being made pursuant to the duty of disclosure imposed by law and formulated in 37 CFR §1.56(A). No representation is made that the information thus disclosed in fact constitutes prior art or that it is the closest prior art, inasmuch as 37 CFR §1.56(A) relies on a materiality concept which depends on subjectivity.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits

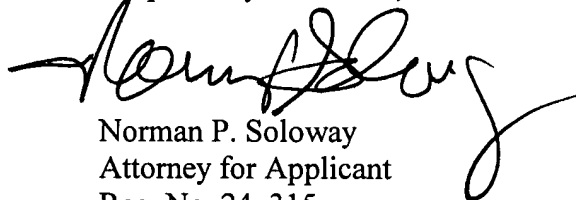
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a copy of the Search Report by a foreign examiner in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. patent application is that the references were cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the references, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of the country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made.

We believe that there are no fees involved with this information disclosure statement. However, in the event there are any fees payable, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 08-1391.

Respectfully submitted,



Norman P. Soloway
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 24, 315

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 4, 2002, at Tucson, Arizona.

By Diana Carr

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional)

SHIG CP04MA00TA

Application Number

10/019,246

Applicant(s)

OKATANI

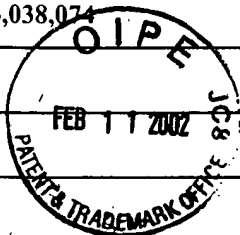
Filing Date

DECEMBER 18, 2001

Group Art Unit

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,038,074	03/14/00	KITAGUCHI et al.			



FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		10-23311	01/23/98	JAPAN				X
		11-136575	05/21/99	JAPAN				X

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.